STATE OPERATED SERVICES WITHIN DHS SERVING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHERS

- 1. The last resident with developmental disabilities left the Regional Treatment Centers in July 2000. This milestone was the result of 50 years of work spanning from Governor Youngdahl to Ventura.
- 2. In the late 1980s, the State of MN was able to negotiate a settlement to the Welsch lawsuit brought in 1972 against Cambridge State Hospital and later expanded to all state hospitals.
- 3. Part of the negotiated settlement was to deal with the loss of employment at regional treatment centers by creating a network of state operated community services staffed by state workers.
- 4. A pilot project was begun in the late 1980s at Cambridge and has now grown to 325 people with developmental disabilities living in residential sites and 550 people served by day programs.
- 5. The residential sites are either group homes for 6 people certified as Intermediate Care Facilities for People with Mental Retardation or waiver homes that serve 4 people in a regular home.
- 6. There are FTEs serving people with developmental disabilities.
- 7. The location of these residential and day programs tend to be clustered around the location of regional treatment centers.
- 8. Continued employment is guaranteed by a Memorandum of Understanding that is an attachment to labor contracts.
- 9. Cost comparisons needed for state operated services compared to private sector.
- 10. Quality/results comparisons are needed.

